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Sub<sub>2</sub>A1

1. A method comprising:  
assigning an individual identifier to the clients  
comprising a set of clients;  
assigning a group identifier to a subset of the  
clients within the set of clients; and  
enabling a first client in said set to determine  
whether a message is sent to the first client or to the  
subset.
2. The method of claim 1 further including sending a  
single message to a subset of said clients.
3. The method of claim 1 including sending  
television content to a plurality of clients.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein assigning an  
individual identifier includes assigning a code portion  
that identifies a particular client as belonging to a  
subset of clients within the set of clients.
5. The method of claim 4 including comparing a group  
identifier, received by a client with a message, to the  
client's individual identifier to determine whether the  
particular client is within the addressed subset.

1           6.    The method of claim 1 including addressing the  
2   same message to a subset of clients.

1           7.    The method of claim 1 including sending a message  
2   to a client in a unidirectional messaging system.

1           8.    An article comprising a medium storing  
2   instructions that enable a processor-based system to:  
3                assign an individual identifier to a client  
4   comprising a set of clients;  
5                assign a group identifier to a subset of the  
6   client within the set of clients; and  
7                enable a first client in said set to determine  
8   whether a message is sent to the first client or to the  
9   subset.

1           9.    The article of claim 8 further storing  
2   instructions that enable the processor-based system to send  
3   a single message to a subset of said clients.

1           10.   The article of claim 8 further storing  
2   instructions that enable the processor-based system to send  
3   television content to a plurality of clients.

1           11.   The article of claim 8 further storing  
2   instructions that enable the processor-based system to

3 assign a code portion that identifies a particular client  
4 as belonging to a subset of clients within the set of  
5 clients.

1 12. The article of claim 11 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 compare a group identifier, received by a client with a  
4 message, to the client's individual identifier to determine  
5 whether the client is within the address subset.

1 13. The article of claim 8 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 address the same message to a subset of clients.

1 14. The article of claim 8 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to send  
3 a message to a client in a unidirectional messaging system.

1 15. A method comprising:  
2 providing at least two agents on a client;  
3 assigning a different address to each of said  
4 agents; and  
5 determining whether a message received by said  
6 client is addressed to one of said agents.

1        16. The method of claim 15 including sending at least  
2        two different types of messages to said client.

1           17. The method of claim 16 including sending messages  
2 including software and messages not including software.

1           18. The method of claim 17 including assigning  
2     different addresses to messages to a client that include  
3     software and messages that do not include software.

1           19. The method of claim 18 including addressing  
2   messages including software to an agent on the client that  
3   is adapted to handle the downloading of software.

1           20. The method of claim 15 including assigning an  
2 individual identifier to the clients comprising a set of  
3 clients, assigning a group identifier to a subset of the  
4 clients within the set of clients, and enabling a first  
5 client in said set to determine whether a message is sent  
6 to the first client or the subset.

1           21. An article comprising a medium storing  
2 instructions that enable a processor-based system to:  
3           provide at least two agents on a client;  
4           assign a different address to each of said  
5 agents; and

6           determine whether a message received by said  
7   client is addressed to one of said agents.

1           22. The article of claim 21 further storing  
2   instructions that enable the processor-based system to send  
3   at least two different types of messages to said client.

1           23. The article of claim 22 further storing  
2   instructions that enable the processor-based system to send  
3   messages including messages including software and messages  
4   not including software.

1           24. The article of claim 23 further storing  
2   instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3   assign different addresses to messages to a client that  
4   include software and messages that do not include software.

1           25. The article of claim 24 further storing  
2   instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3   address messages including software to an agent on the  
4   client, said agent adapted to handle the downloading of  
5   software.

1           26. The article of claim 21 further storing  
2   instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3   assign an individual identifier to the clients comprising a



3           a storage coupled to said device storing  
4   instructions that enable the processor-based device to  
5   handle at least two agents on a client, assign a different  
6   address to each of said agents and determine whether a  
7   message received by the client is addressed to one of said  
8   agents.